

## Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00

IO-13 /032 W  
----- 079805

P R 151248Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3247

INFO AMCONSUL UDORN

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DEPT FOR D/HA/ORM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJ: MOVEMENT RATE OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: A) STATE 78185; B) BANGKOK 8179; C) STATE 84789,  
D) STATE 87402; E) BANGKOK 9006

1. IN RESPONSE TO REF (C), EMBASSY WISHES TO REITERATE THAT IN THE EVENT OF LARGE ADDITIONAL REFUGEE PAROLE NUMBERS RATE OF MOVEMENT WILL BE SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER THAN PRESENT RATE OF 150-200 PER WEEK FOR LAO. ICEM FORESEES A MOVEMENT RATE OF 800 PER WEEK USING COMMERCIAL AIR AND CONTINGENT ON A TRANSIT CENTER BEING FIRMED UP IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND PERMISSION TO USE FOREIGN CARRIERS IF US CARRIER SPACE UNAVAILABLE. IF 800 PER WEEK MOVEMENT BEGINS LAST WEEK IN JUNE, 10,400 REFUGEES CAN BE MOVED PRIOR 30 SEPTEMBER. THE JUNE START-UP TIME WILL BE CONTINGENT ON ADEQUATE NUMBERS OF VERIFIED SPONSORS FOR EXPANDED PROGRAM BY JUNE 1.

2. A PRESENT RATE OF LAO REFUGEE DEPARTURES LARGELY DEPENDENT ON FLOW OF SPONSORSHIP VERIFICATIONS. WE HAVE 150 GUARANTEED PLACES IN PRESENT UNHCR TRANSIT CENTER. ICEM WILL ARRANGE TO PUT OVERFLOW IN HOTELS,

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IF NECESSARY, PER AUTHORIZATION OF REF (D). THUS

FAR, NEED TO USE HOTELS HAS NOT ARISEN SINCE LAST MARCH BUT WE MAY HAVE TO USE HOTELS FOR TRANSIT CENTER OVERFLOW COMMENCING WEEK OF APRIL 18. DEPARTURE PROJECTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING APRIL 18 ARE 211 AND FOR WEEK OF APRIL 25 60 TO 100. THIS LATTER NUMBER FOR WEEK OF APRIL 25 INCLUDES ALL LAO READY TO TRAVEL AS OF APRIL 14, AS 10 DAYS LEADTIME REQUIRED FOR UNHCR AND RTG TO TRANSPORT REFUGEES FROM CAMP TO BANGKOK TRANSIT CENTER. ICEM ATTEMPTING STREAMLINE THESE PROCEDURES TO ENABLE US TO EXPEDITE FOR MOVEMENT A SPONSORSHIP VERIFICATION CASE AS SOON AS IT COMES IN WITHOUT 10 DAY ADVANCE NOTICE TO UNHCR AND RTG. DROP TO 60-100 LAO TRAVELLERS FOR WEEK OF APRIL 25 POINTS UP OUR IMMEDIATE NEED FOR MORE VERIFIED SPONSORS IF WE ARE TO INCREASE MOVEMENT RATE IN FIRST WEEK OF MAY.

2. B. THERE FOLLOWS BREAK-OUT OF A-NUMBERED LAO CASELOAD REMAINING IN THAILAND:

1. WITHOUT VERIFIED SPONSORS (128 CASES) 561
2. WITH SPONSORS 710
  - A. SCHEDULED TO BE MOVED BY END OF APRIL 447
  - B. NOT SCHEDULED TO MOVE DURING APRIL 263
    - A. REFUGEES WITH PROBLEMS 158
    2. NO VISA FALCON CLEARANCE 36
    3. REFUGEE OFFICE EMPLOYEES 28
    4. NOT YET ACCEPTED SPONSOR 41

BREAKOUT BY NAME OF PENDING LAO CASES CITED STATE 85286 HAS BEEN ANSWERED SEPTEL. (BANGKOK 9397)

3. IN TERMS OF REFUGEE PROBLEMS PREVENTING MOEMENT OF "OLD" LAO, THE TWO MOST SERIOUS CONCERN ADD-ON RELATIVES. CAMP MARRIAGES ARE NOT SUFFICIENT FOR INS; THERE ARE 25 COUPLES WHO NEED TO BE LEGALLY MARRIED BEFORE THEY CAN MOVE. EMBASSY WORKING ON THIS. THEN THERE ARE CASES OF SIBLINGS AND OTHER RELATIVES WHO DID NOT GET A NUMBERED WITH PA AND FAMILY OFTEN BECAUSE THEY ARE IN DIFFERENT CAMPS. EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ICEM AUTHORIZING THE HOLDING OF ONLY THOSE CASES INVOLVING ADD-ON RELATIVES IN FOLLOWING CATEGORIES WHO DID NOT GET OPPORTUNITY FOR INS INTERVIEW.: SPOUSES, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, CHILDREN, SINGLE SIBLINGS AND SINGLE OTHER RELATIVES UNDER 21.

4. NEW TRANSIT CENTER: RTG AND UNHCR HAVE NOT COME UP WITH A LARGER TRANSIT CENTER WHICH WILL BE NEEDED

UNDER AN EXPANDED PROGRAM. ICEM HAS BEEN EXPLORING TWO LEADS - ONE, THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL CAMPUS NEAR THE BANGKOK AIRPORT AND THE OTHER, THE RED CROSS FACILITY ABOUT 30 KMS FROM DOWNTOWN BANGKOK. THE FORMER WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL JUNE 15 AND THE LATTER JUNE 1. USE OF EITHER FACILITY WILL ENTAIL COSTS IN THE RANGE OF \$3,000-\$4,000 PER MONTH FOR RENT AND/OR UTILITIES. ALSO, FUNDS WOULD BE REQUIRED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF \$5,000 TO RESTORE EITHER FACILITY TO ORIGINAL CONDITION AT END OF PROGRAM.

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00

IO-13 /032 W  
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P R 151248Z APR 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3248  
INFO AMCONSUL UDORN

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DEPT FOR D/HA/ORM

FINALLY, THERE MAY BE FOOD COSTS TO SUPPLEMENT REGULAR UNHCR FEEDING ALLOWANCE, IN THE EVENT THAT WE CANNOT LOCATE CATERER WILLING TO FEED AT THE UNHCR RATE. THESE ADDITIONAL FEEDING COSTS SHOULD COST NO MORE THAN \$15,000 FOR 11,000 REFUGEES. EMBASSY AND ICEM WILL ATTEMPT ONCE MORE WITH UNHCR TO GET UNHCR TO PICK UP ALL OR PART F TRANSIT CENTER COSTS/RENT. THE UNHCR DEFINITELY WILL NOT FINANCE SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING. ACTION REQUESTED: WHILE UNHCR BEING RECONTACTED, REQUEST DEPARTMENT APPROVAL FOR COSTS MENTIONED ABOVE IN EVENT UNHCR DOES NOT PICK THEM UP. THESE COSTS WOULD BE PAID BY ICEM ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS. PROMPT APPROVAL FROM DEPARTMENT NEEDED SO TRANSIT CENTER SITE CAN BE FIRMED UP QUICKLY.

5. IN ORDER TO RESERVE A TRANSIT FACILITY, NEED  
DEPARTMENT RESPONSE BY APRIL 20. SUCH A CENTER WILL  
BE REQUIRED FOR ANY SUBSTANTIAL NEW NUMBERS (I.E. OVER  
3,000). LEASE WILL OBLIGATE PAYMENT OF RENT THROUGH  
SEPT. 30.

6. PERMISSION TO USE FOREIGN CARRIERS: DEPARTMENT  
APPROVAL IS REQUESTED FOR ICEM TO USE FOREIGN CARRIERS  
ON ANY DAY WHEN US CARRIERS ARE BOOKED. NATURALLY,  
THIS WOULD BE ONLY IF TRANSPORTATION PRICE IS THE SAME  
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AS US CARRIERS NOW PROVIDING. ICEM FORESEES  
NECESSITY TO USE FOREIGN CARRIERS ON OVERFLOW DAYS  
QUITE FREQUENTLY. THIS COULD AMOUNT TO AS MUCH AS  
30 PERCENT OF REFUGEE TRAFFIC LOAD TO THE US.

WHITEHOUSE

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